

TROPICAL DEPRESSION 01W

The first significant tropical cyclone (TC) of 1996 in the western North Pacific (WNP), Tropical Depression (TD) 01W formed at low latitude in a near-equatorial trough associated with a surge in the monsoonal westerlies (i.e., a westerly wind burst). The tropical disturbance which

became TD 01W was first mentioned on the 230600Z February Significant Tropical Weather Advisory when satellite imagery indicated that deep convection was becoming organized on the northeastern end of a monsoonal cloud band along the equator (Figure 3-01-1a). After deep convection along the equator collapsed, a weak TC consolidated in the Northern Hemisphere, and toward westward the moved Philippines (Figure 3-01-1b). Two formation alerts (one at 281300Z and the other at 290430Z) were issued prior to the first warning valid at 290600Z February. The first warning indicated that the intensity of TD 01W was 30 kt (15 m/sec). Although forecast to slowly intensify while crossing the Visayan Island group of the central Philippines, TD 01W remained at 30 kt (Figure 3-01-1c), and then weakened as it approached the South China Sea. The final warning was issued at 011800Z March. No reports of damage or injuries were received.







